

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the remarks and analysis contained in the Office Action mailed on May 19, 2004. Claim 1 is amended. Claim 4 is cancelled. New claims 13-19 are added. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application.

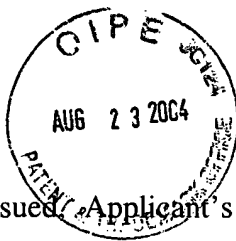
Applicant thanks the examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 5, 7 and 8. New claims 17, 18 and 19 present those claims rewritten in independent form.

A proposed new Figure 2A is submitted to overcome the objection regarding the subject matter of claim 10. The objection regarding claim 4 is moot.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) based upon *Kuwabara*. *Kuwabara* does not anticipate because the rectangular base portion has a large contact surface dimension corresponding to at least three sides of the rectangle. That contact surface dimension cannot satisfy the claims that include a dimensional restriction on the size of the contact surface.

Applicant also respectfully traverses the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103. There is no *prima facie* case of obviousness. The proposed combination does not provide the same result as the claimed invention. Additionally, there is no motivation for modifying *Kuwabara* to be consistent with Applicant's claims. Only Applicant's disclosure recognizes the benefits associated with the claimed arrangement.

Applicant respectfully submits that this case is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference will facilitate moving this case forward to




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being issued. Applicant's representative can be contacted at the telephone number indicated below.

Applicant believes that additional fees in the amount of \$86.00 are required for one additional independent claim, which is paid by the enclosed check. The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482 in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

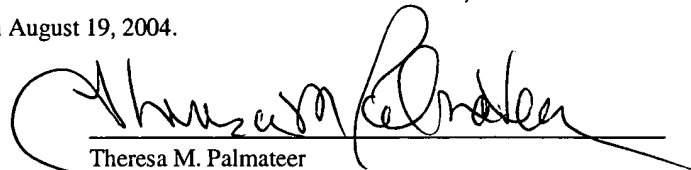
Respectfully submitted,

CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the enclosed **Response** is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 19, 2004.


Theresa M. Palmateer

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